

The Suffering Messiah- Isaiah 53
(Paraphrased)

Who has believed the message of salvation and to whom has the divine power been reviewed? Israel's eyes were blinded and heart callous and degenerated, was hardened; the low condition the Messiah submitted Himself to and His appearance were not agreeable to the ideas His people had formed of the Messiah; they expected Him to have come in pomp, instead He grew up as a tender plant, silently and insensibly, His appearance in the world had nothing of outward glory; He was a man of sorrow; His life on earth was made sin for us; He underwent the sentence sin had subjected us to; He was unsettled, had not where to lay His head; He was opposed and endured the contradiction of sinners against Himself; so He was despised as a common man; rejected as a bad man; His suffering was of no meaning to the world; He carried our grieves and sorrows- the results of our sin; He carried them, He neither shrunk from them, nor sunk under them; but we consider Him to be struck down by God; He was smitten with the tongue; His wounds and stripes were under the Romans' law, not under the merciful Jewish law; from His head, crowned with thorns, to the soles of His feet, nailed to the cross, were wounds and bruises – He was literally pierced through because of our transgressions; He was bruised because of our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and by His wounds we are healed; our sins are our sorrows and grieves, or our sickness and our wounds; our original corruptions are the sickness and disease of the soul; our transgressions are the wounds of our soul, which put the conscience to pain; as sheep strays from the path, we have gone our own way in the stubbornness of our heart; it is certain before our God that we have sinned and have come short of the glory of God; but it was the will of the Father to take our punishment upon YAHSHUA. He was injuriously treated; but when oppressed and afflicted He kept possession of His soul; He was quiet before His enemies, as the lamb is when led to the slaughter and before her shearers; He was judged and imprisoned; He was accursed, tried and condemned; and who in His generation considered their transgression to be the reason for His suffering? He was cut off from the land of the living; He was struck because of His people's rebellion; though He died with the wicked, He made His grave with the innocent, with the rich; as a distinction between Him and those who deserved to die, it plainly appeared that He did not suffer as an evil doer; He willingly submitted to death on the cross for the great and holy purpose. By this we are sanctified; His making His own life an offering for our sins. He was appointed by the will of the Father to make satisfaction for our sins, and to save us from its consequences; for the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Having undertaken our debt, He underwent the penalty. Our sins are the thorns in His head, the nails in His hands, and feet, and the spear in His side; He poured out His life unto death and was regarded as a criminal and was numbered with the transgressors, but He will see the spoil of His spiritual victories; He shall reckon Himself recompensed for all He did and suffered. The spoils the Father divided to the Son, He divides among His followers – His spiritual offspring; When He led captivity captive, He received gifts for men, that He might give gifts to men. Through Him we are more than conquerors; He has divided the spoils, the fruit of His conquest. He suffered under the load of our guilt and iniquities; He continually intercedes for us and prevails destroying the works of the devil.

(Paraphrased and compiled from Matthew Henry's commentary).